

CHAPTER 46  
OVERPAYMENT RECOVERY

[Prior to 7/1/83, Social Services[770] Ch 46]  
[Prior to 2/11/87, Human Services[498]]

DIVISION I  
FAMILY INVESTMENT PROGRAM—CONTROL GROUP  
[Rescinded IAB 2/12/97, effective 3/1/97]

**441—46.1 to 46.20** Reserved.

DIVISION II  
FAMILY INVESTMENT PROGRAM—TREATMENT GROUP  
[Prior to 10/13/93, 441—46.1(239) to 46.8(239)]

**441—46.21(239B) Definitions.**

“*Agency error*” in overpayments means: (a) The same as circumstances described in 441—subrule 45.24(1) pertaining to underpayments, or (b) any error that is not a client or procedural error.

“*Client*” means a current or former applicant or recipient of the family investment program.

“*Client error*” means and may result from:

1. False or misleading statements, oral or written, regarding the client’s income, resources, or other circumstances which may affect eligibility or the amount of assistance received;
2. Failure to timely report changes in income, resources, or other circumstances as required by 441—40.27(239B); or
3. Failure to refund to the child support recovery unit any nonexempt payment from the absent parent received after the date the decision on eligibility was made.

“*Overpayment*” means any assistance payment received in an amount greater than the amount the eligible group is entitled to receive.

“*Procedural error*” means a technical error that does not in and of itself result in an overpayment. Procedural errors include:

1. Failure to secure a properly signed application at the time of initial application or reapplication.
2. Failure to secure a properly signed Form 470-3826, Request for FIP Beyond 60 Months, as described at 441—subrule 41.30(3).
3. Failure of the local office to conduct the interviews described in 441—subrules 40.24(2) and 40.27(1).
4. Failure to request a Public Assistance Eligibility Report, a Combined PAER/FAIR, or a Review/Recertification Eligibility Document at the time of a quarterly, semiannual, or annual review.
5. Failure of local office staff to cancel the family investment program benefits when the client submits a Public Assistance Eligibility Report, a Combined PAER/FAIR, or a Review/Recertification Eligibility Document that is not complete as defined in 441—paragraph 40.27(4) “b.” However, overpayments of grants as defined above based on incomplete reports are subject to recoupment.

“*Recoup*” means reimburse, return, or repay an overpayment.

“*Recoupment*” means the repayment of an overpayment, either by a payment from the client or an amount withheld from the assistance grant or both.

**441—46.22(239B) Monetary standards.**

**46.22(1) Amount subject to recoupment.** All family investment program overpayments shall be subject to recoupment.

**46.22(2) Grant issued.** When recoupment is made by withholding from the family investment program grant, the grant issued shall be for no less than \$10.

**441—46.23(239B) Notification and appeals.** All clients shall be notified by the department of inspections and appeals, as described at 441—subrule 7.5(6), when it is determined that an overpayment exists. Notification shall include the amount, date and reason for the overpayment. The local office shall provide additional information regarding the computation of the overpayment upon the client's request. The client may appeal the computation of the overpayment and any action to recover the overpayment through benefit reduction in accordance with 441—subrule 7.5(6).

**441—46.24(239B) Determination of overpayments.** All overpayments due to agency or client error or due to assistance paid pending an appeal decision shall be recouped. A procedural error alone does not result in an overpayment.

**46.24(1) Agency error.** When an overpayment is due to an agency error, recoupment shall be made, including those instances when errors by the department prevent the requirements in 441—subrule 41.22(6) or 41.22(7) from being met or when the client receives a duplicate grant.

*a.* An overpayment of any amount is subject to recoupment with one exception: When the client receives a grant that exceeds the amount on the most recent notice from the department, recoupment shall be made only when the amount received exceeds the amount on the notice by \$10 or more.

*b.* An overpayment due to agency error shall be computed as if the information had been acted upon timely.

**46.24(2) Assistance paid pending appeal decision.** Recoupment of overpayments resulting from assistance paid pending a decision on an appeal hearing shall begin no later than the month after the month in which the final decision is issued.

**46.24(3) Client error.**

*a.* An overpayment due to client error shall be computed as if the information had been reported and acted upon timely.

*b.* Overpayments due to failure to refund payments received from the absent parent shall be the total nonexempt support payment made for members of the eligible group at the time the support payment was received. In addition, assistance payments made to meet the needs of the eligible group may also be subject to recoupment under provisions in 441—subrule 41.22(6).

**46.24(4) Failure to cooperate.** Failure to cooperate in the investigation of alleged overpayments shall result in ineligibility for the months in question and the overpayment shall be the total amount of assistance received during those months.

**46.24(5) Overpayment in special alien cases.** Rescinded IAB 10/4/00, effective 12/1/00.

**46.24(6) Real property exempted as a resource.** Rescinded IAB 6/30/99, effective 9/1/99.

**441—46.25(239B) Source of recoupment.** Recoupment shall be made from basic needs. The minimum recoupment amount shall be the amount prescribed in 46.25(3). Regardless of the source, the client may choose to make a lump sum payment, make periodic installment payments when an agreement to do this is made with the department of inspections and appeals, or have repayment withheld from the grant. The client shall sign Form 470-0495, Repayment Contract, when requested to do so by the department of inspections and appeals. When the client fails to make the agreed upon payment, the agency shall reduce the grant.

**46.25(1)** and **46.25(2)** Rescinded, effective February 8, 1984.

**46.25(3) Basic needs.**

*a.* Recoupment by withholding from basic needs for overpayments due to client error or a combination of client and agency errors shall be 10 percent of the basic needs standard in accordance with the schedule in 441—subrule 41.28(2).

*b.* Recoupment by withholding from basic needs for overpayments due to the continuation of benefits pending a decision on an appeal as provided under rule 441—7.9(217) or a combination of continued benefits and agency or client errors shall be 10 percent of the basic needs standard in accordance with the schedule in 441—subrule 41.28(2).

*c.* Recoupment by withholding from basic needs for overpayments due to agency error shall be 1 percent of the basic needs standard in accordance with the schedule in 441—subrule 41.28(2).

*d.* Rescinded IAB 6/30/99, effective 9/1/99.

**46.25(4) Recoupment in special alien cases.** Rescinded IAB 10/4/00, effective 12/1/00.

**441—46.26** Rescinded, effective February 8, 1984.

**441—46.27(239B) Procedures for recoupment.**

**46.27(1)** Rescinded IAB 2/8/89, effective 4/1/89.

**46.27(2) Referral.** When the local office determines that an overpayment exists, the case shall be referred to the department of inspections and appeals for investigation, recoupment, or referral for possible prosecution.

**46.27(3)** Rescinded IAB 2/8/89, effective 4/1/89.

**46.27(4) Change of circumstances.** When financial circumstances change, the recoupment plan is subject to revision.

**46.27(5) Collection.** Recoupment for overpayments shall be made from the parent or nonparental relative who was the caretaker relative, as defined in 441—subrule 41.22(3), at the time the overpayment occurred. When both parents were in the home at the time the overpayment occurred, both parents are equally responsible for repayment of the overpayment.

**46.27(6) Suspension and waiver.** Recoupment will be suspended on nonfraud overpayments when the case is canceled and the amount of the overpayment is less than \$35. If the case is reopened within three years, recoupment is initiated again. Recoupment will be waived on nonfraud overpayments of less than \$35 which have been held in suspense for three years.

**441—46.28(239B) Intentional program violation.** Rescinded IAB 11/8/06, effective 1/1/07.

**441—46.29(239B) Fraudulent misrepresentation of residence.** A person convicted in a state or federal court, or in an administrative hearing, of having made a fraudulent statement or representation of the person's place of residence in order to receive assistance simultaneously from two or more states shall be ineligible for assistance for ten years. For the purpose of this rule, the term "assistance" means assistance under Titles IV-A or XIX of the Social Security Act, or the Food Stamp Act of 1977, or benefits in two or more states under the Supplemental Security Income program under Title XVI. The ten-year period begins on the date the person is convicted. The prohibition does not apply to a convicted person who is pardoned by the President of the United States, beginning with the month after the pardon is given.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 239B.2, 239B.3, 239B.7, and 239B.14.

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